

**INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE RULES OF
MAGISTRATE JUDGE RAMON E. REYES, JR.**
United States Courthouse
225 Cadman Plaza East, Rm. 263
Courtroom A - North Wing, 2nd Floor
Chambers: (718) 613-2120
Fax: (718) 613-2125
Secretary: Marta Rivera
Deputy: Miriam Vertus
Law Clerk: Lara Corchado

I. Electronic Case Filing (ECF)

A. General ECF Requirement: Exemptions.

1. Regardless of the district judge assigned, all documents directed to Magistrate Judge Reyes must be filed electronically via the court's Electronic Filing System pursuant to Administrative Order 2004-08. ECF procedures are available from the district court's web site at <http://www.nyed.uscourts.gov>. Questions regarding ECF filing or training should be directed to Evelyn Levine at (718) 613-2312.
2. Regardless of the district judge assigned, in all cases assigned to Magistrate Judge Reyes, attorneys must make an appearance and register to receive ECF notifications prior to filing any motions, letters, or other documents.
3. Litigants proceeding *pro se* are exempt from ECF requirements. Other requests to be exempt from ECF requirements may be made in writing to Magistrate Judge Reyes. Requests for exemptions to the ECF requirements will only be considered after the attorney seeking the request has completed ECF training. Such requests will be granted only in limited and exceptional circumstances.

B. Hard Copies.

1. *Generally.* Except as provided below (*see* Rule III.C.3 with respect to motions), **do not submit hard copies of documents filed by ECF.** The Court will determine whether the submission of courtesy hard copies would be useful, and, if so, will advise counsel.
2. *Exception for time-sensitive submissions.* **After filing by ECF, a copy of time-sensitive submissions, such as requests for adjournments, must be faxed to chambers at (718) 613-2125, subject to the rules set forth below in paragraph II.D.**

3. *Exception for filings containing non-text exhibits.* Parties filing non-text exhibits or materials in excess of 50 pages shall submit a courtesy copy of the entire filing.
4. *Notifications and orders by the Court.* Attorneys will receive notifications from the Court electronically. Hard copies will **not** be mailed to attorneys registered for ECF. Accordingly, attorneys are responsible for keeping their e-mail addresses current with the Clerk's Office. Attorneys are also responsible for ensuring that they are registered with the Clerk's Office to receive email notifications in every matter before Magistrate Judge Reyes.

II. Communications With Chambers

- A. Telephone calls. Communications with chambers shall normally be by letter (*see* Rule II.D.). Telephone calls to chambers are permitted only between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., and must be directed to (718) 613-2120. Attorneys should review the ECF docket prior to contacting chambers with questions regarding the scheduling of conferences.
- B. Letters. All letters sent to the Court are to be filed via ECF (*see* Rule I.B.2 above regarding time-sensitive letters), with copies simultaneously delivered to all parties, and with service on all parties indicated on the face of the letter. Copies of correspondence between counsel shall not be filed or sent to the Court. All letters to Magistrate Judge Reyes requesting court intervention, including those sent pursuant to Local Civil Rules 37.1 and 37.3 or requesting an adjournment or extension of discovery deadlines, must be electronically filed under "Motions" and not "Letter" under "Other Documents."
- C. Requests for adjournments or extensions of time. All requests for adjournment of a court appearance, absent an emergency, shall be made **at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled appearance**. Further, all requests for adjournments or extensions of time must state: (1) the reason for the extension; (2) the original date, (3) the number of previous requests for adjournment or extension, (4) whether those previous requests were granted or denied, and (5) whether the adversary consents (including any reasons given by the adversary for withholding consent). If the requested adjournment or extension affects any other scheduled date, a proposed Revised Scheduling Order must be submitted.
- D. Faxes. Faxes not exceeding five pages, excluding a cover sheet, are permitted without prior authorization. Longer faxes require permission. Papers faxed to chambers must also be faxed to all other parties.
- E. E-mail. Parties may not submit documents via email, unless instructed to do so by the Court. All documents being submitted should be filed through ECF.

Parties may also not communicate with chambers via email unless prior authorization has been granted.

III. Motions

MOTION RULES AT A GLANCE:

Oral Argument – No
Courtesy Copies to Chambers – Yes
Special Filing Rules – Yes

A. Judge to Whom Motions Are to Be Made. Unless otherwise specifically ordered, or required by the District Judge's rules, all non-dispositive pretrial motions, including but not limited to discovery motions, motion to amend pleadings, to remand, to intervene, or to transfer a venue, are to be made to Magistrate Judge Reyes. All dispositive motions, including but not limited to summary judgment motions and motions to dismiss, are to be made to the District Judge, unless the parties have consented in writing to determination by the Magistrate Judge in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636 (c)(1). The parties are advised to consult 28 U.S.C. § 636 and applicable case law to determine whether a proposed motion is dispositive or non-dispositive.

B. Pre-Motion Conferences. For discovery motions, follow Local Civil Rules 37.3 and 6.1. For motions other than discovery motions, or motions to remand to state court in all cases where the parties are represented by counsel, a pre-motion conference with the Court is required before making any motion.

To arrange a pre-motion conference, the moving party shall submit a letter not to exceed three (3) pages in length setting forth the factual and legal bases of the anticipated motion. All parties so served must serve and file a letter response, not to exceed three (3) pages within seven (7) days from the service of the notification letter. Service of the letter by the moving party within the time requirements of Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure shall constitute timely service of a motion made pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 12(b).

C. General Practices.

1. *Service, filing, and briefing schedules.*

a. **For motions other than discovery motions, no motion papers shall be filed until the motion has been fully briefed.** The notice of motion and all supporting papers are to be served on the other parties along with a cover letter setting forth whom the movant

represents and the papers being served. A copy of the cover letter only is to be mailed to chambers at that time.

- b. Subject to Court approval, the parties are to set up their own briefing schedule for motions other than discovery motions. No changes in the approved schedule may be made without the Court's approval. Approval may be given at the pre-motion conference or by subsequent letter. No party is to serve any motion papers prior to obtaining the Court's approval of the briefing schedule.
 - c. The original moving party shall be responsible for electronically filing all motion papers. Such party shall also serve and file a letter specifying each document filed in the motion package. The adversary is responsible for providing the movant with a PDF version of opposition papers, as well as two (2) courtesy copies for chambers.
 - d. **For discovery motions, each party's papers may be filed electronically upon their completion,** following the schedule provided in Local Rule 6.1(a).
- 2. *Memoranda of law.* Unless prior permission has been granted, memoranda of law in support of and in opposition to motions on notice are limited to 25 pages, and reply memoranda are limited to 10 pages. Memoranda of 10 pages or more shall contain a table of contents and table of authorities. Case citations must contain pinpoint cites. All memoranda of law must use one-inch side, top and bottom margins, double spacing, and 12-point font. Legal arguments must be set forth in a memorandum of law; affidavits or affirmations containing legal argument will be rejected. *See* Local Civil Rule 7.1. **Any memoranda, affidavits, or affidavits not complying with the requirements set forth herein will be rejected.**
 - 3. *Courtesy copies.* Immediately after electronic filing, the moving party shall provide two (2) hard copies of the motion papers, each marked as a "Courtesy Copy," to chambers. Courtesy copies of dispositive motions made to the district judge should **not** be provided to the magistrate judge.
 - 4. *Oral argument on motions.* Parties may request oral argument. The Court will determine whether argument will be heard, and, if so, will advise counsel of the argument date.

IV. Pretrial Procedures in Civil Trials Referred To Magistrate Judge Reyes

- A. Joint pretrial orders. In cases referred for trial before Magistrate Judge Reyes in which a pretrial order has already been filed pursuant to the individual practice rules of another judge, no additional filing is required under this rule. In cases where no pretrial order was filed prior to the referral to Magistrate Judge Reyes, the parties shall, on the date specified in the scheduling order or as otherwise ordered by the court, within 60 days after discovery is completed, submit a joint pretrial order for approval that includes the following:
1. The full caption of the action;
 2. The names (including firm names), addresses (including email), and telephone and fax numbers of trial counsel;
 3. A brief statement by plaintiff as to the basis of subject matter jurisdiction, and a brief statement by each other party as to the presence or absence of subject matter jurisdiction. Such statements shall cite relevant statutes and facts regarding citizenship and jurisdictional amounts.
 4. A brief summary by each party of the claims and defenses that party has asserted that remain to be tried, without recitals of evidentiary matter but including citations to all statutes relied on. Such summaries shall identify all claims and defense previously asserted that are not to be tried.
 5. A statement by each party as to whether the case is to be tried with or without a jury, and the number of trial days needed.
 6. A list by each party as to the fact and expert witnesses whose testimony is to be offered in its case in chief, indicating whether such witnesses will testify in person or by deposition. Only listed witnesses will be permitted to testify; except when prompt notice has been given and good cause shown.
 7. A designation by each party of deposition testimony to be offered in its case in chief, with any cross-designations and objections by any other party.
 8. A statement of stipulated facts, if any.
 9. Exhibits:
 - A. A schedule listing exhibits to be offered in evidence and if not admitted by stipulation, the party or parties that will be offering

them. The schedule will also include possible impeachment documents and/or exhibits, as well as exhibits that will be offered only on rebuttal. The parties will list and briefly describe the basis for any objections that they have to the admissibility of any exhibits to be offered by any other party. Parties are expected to resolve before trial all issues of authenticity, chain of custody and related grounds. Failure to object in the pretrial order waives all objections at trial, except objections as to relevance. Meritless objections based on these grounds may result in the imposition of sanctions. Only exhibits listed will be received in evidence except for good cause; and

B. All exhibits must be premarked for the trial, and exchanged with the other parties, and a full set of all premarked exhibits must be provided to chambers at least ten days before trial. Where exhibits are voluminous, they should be placed in binders with tabs.

B. Filings prior to trial. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, each party shall file, 15 days before the date of commencement of trial if such a date has been fixed, or 30 days after the filing of the final pretrial order if no trial date has been fixed:

1. Requests to charge and proposed voir dire questions. Requests to charge should be limited to the elements of the claims, the damages sought, and defenses. General instructions will be prepared by the Court. Proposed jury charges should also be submitted on a 3.5" IBM formatted diskette in Word Perfect format.
2. By claim, a detailed statement regarding damages and other relief sought;
3. In non-jury cases, a statement of the elements of each claim or defense involving such party, together with a summary of the facts relied upon to establish each element;
4. *In limine* motions addressing any evidentiary or other issues which could not be resolved; and
5. In any case where such party believes, it would be useful, a pretrial memorandum.

Dated 2/21/06
updated 9/6/06